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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: John Eric Arnold et al. Confirmation No. 1392 Docket No. DN1999111USA For: AIRSPRING AND AIRSPRING Art Unit: 3613 Examiner: Xuan Lan T. Nguyen RETAINER I hereby certify that this correspondence is being Serial No. 10/009,696 deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:) Filed: November 6, 2001 Assistant Commissioner of Patents, Washington, DC **Assistant Commissioner of Patents** Washington, D.C. 20231

(Signature)

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 €.F.R. § 1.111

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed on December 26, 2002, please amend the above identified patent application without prejudice as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

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Please replace claim 1 with the following amended claim 1.

GROUP 3600

1. (Amended) An airspring (10) comprising a flexible cylindrical sleeve (14) secured at opposing ends, and first and second retainers (12, 26), the sleeve being secured at a first end to one of the retainers (12 or 26), and at the opposing end to other retainer (26 or 12), the improvement being characterized by:

one of the retainers (26) having an integrally formed bumper-contact surface (52) within the sleeve (14) for axial movement into the sleeve (14), for contact with the other retainer (12), and for absorbing and transmitting forces generated from such contact, the bumper contact surface (52) being centrally located on the surface of the retainer (26) which extends into the sleeve (14) during axial movement into the sleeve (14).

The above amendment is supported by the original specification.